GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5927
ANSWERED ON:17.05.2007
CONSTRUCTION OF TUNNELS BY BRO
Kharventhan Shri Salarapatty Kuppusamy

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Border Roads Organisation (BRO) has proposed to construct tunnels to make Ladakh accessible all year round;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the estimated cost of the project; and

(c) the time by which the tunnels are likely to be constructed and its likely benefits thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY)

(a) & (b): Proposal for construction of 8.82 Km long tunnel at Rohtang alongwith approach roads and alternative road to Leh via Darcha-Padam-Nimu has been approved at the cost of Rs.1355.82 Crore.

(c) Works are proposed to be completed by 2013-2014. With the completion of works, the distance between Manali and Leh will reduce by 47 Km and road will be available to users for longer time in the year. This will result in the saving in cost of vehicular operation for all users and cost of Air maintenance for the Army. This will also give boost to socio-economic development of the region by way of growth in industries related to tourism, agriculture and horticulture in part of Himachal Pradesh and Jammu & Kashmir.